



## Early Achievers Participant Resources and Supports

Participants in Early Achievers, Washington's Quality Rating and Improvement System, have access to a variety of resources and supports to assist with their quality improvement efforts.

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### Training

The Professional Trainings Series is available for participating facility directors and family child care providers free of charge. The Professional Training Series is comprised of 6 trainings designed to provide background on the assessments and concepts that will be measured in Level 3 – 5.

In order to ensure access for all participants, 3 of the trainings will be offered in an online format and 3 will be traditional seat time trainings offered on a rolling basis statewide.

- ⦿ Environment Rating Scale and Classroom Assessment Scoring System Overview: Online
- ⦿ Washington Early Learning Guidelines: Online
- ⦿ Washington State Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals: Online
- ⦿ Strengthening Families
- ⦿ Introduction to Cultural Competence
- ⦿ School Readiness

For more information about the trainings, please contact your Regional Coordinator.

### Technical Assistance

Free technical assistance (TA) is available to participants throughout the Level 2 process. Your local Child Care Aware agency will provide you with a TA specialist who will partner with you to successfully navigate Early Achievers and prepare for your rating. TA support is customized to meet your facility's needs, and can include:

- ⦿ Technical support with Early Achievers applications, including MERIT help
- ⦿ Resources and materials related to the Early Achievers quality standard areas
- ⦿ Information about the assessments used in Early Achievers - the Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)
- ⦿ Follow-up on Level 2 trainings to help you apply the training in your program
- ⦿ Connection to Early Achievers peer mentors

For more information, please contact your local Child Care Aware agency

## Peer Support

Early Achiever Mentors are facilities/individuals that participated in the QRIS field test who have volunteered to share their time and expertise with new participants. These facilities have experience with the assessment tools and can explain the rating process. Please contact your Regional Coordinator for a list of mentors near you.

## Coaching

Participants who have been awarded a Level 3 – 5 will be assigned a coach who will provide targeted, ongoing assistance and support. Each facility will develop a Quality Improvement Plan in partnership with their coach based on their own unique needs and priorities. Coaches are highly trained professionals with strong backgrounds in early learning

## Other Incentives

- ⦿ **Scholarships and Grants** – Scholarships and grants are available to Early Achievers participants to support their ongoing professional development goals. Funding is evenly split between Washington Scholars administered by the Washington State Child Care Resource and Referral Network and Opportunity Grants administered by the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges.
- ⦿ **Quality Improvement Awards** – Facilities who have been awarded a Level 3 – 5 rating are eligible to receive a quality improvement award based on rating level.

Rated Level	Family Child Care	Child Care Center
Level 3	\$2000	\$5000
Level 4	\$2250	\$7500
Level 5	\$2750	\$9000

- ⦿ **Tiered Reimbursement** – Facilities that attain higher ratings may be eligible to receive higher reimbursements in the future.